

## **IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PRESS RELEASE**

**For release, January 22, 2001**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

**Steven M. Cook, M.D.**, a 46 year-old physician formerly practicing in Oelwein, Iowa, was charged by the Board with the inability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety due to the excessive use of drugs or alcohol, with indiscriminately or promiscuously prescribing, administering or dispensing drugs for other than a lawful purpose, with abandoning numerous patients and with failing to maintain timely, accurate and complete medical records. A hearing in this matter is set for March 8, 2001.

**Donald R. Hall, D.O.**, a 45 year-old physician formerly practicing in Charles City, Iowa, was charged by the Board with the inability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety due to the excessive use of drugs or alcohol. On June 16, 1994, Dr. Hall's Iowa medical license was placed on probation for five years under certain terms and conditions due the excessive use of drugs or alcohol. Dr. Hall successfully completed the terms of probation and was released from probation on July 16, 1998. The Board recently received information indicating Dr. Hall suffers from a substance abuse problem that impairs his ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety. A hearing in this matter is set for March 8, 2001.

**Kyu-il Lee, M.D.**, a 57 year-old anesthesiologist formerly practicing in Fort Madison, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. On November 16, 2000, Dr. Lee was charged by the Board with attempting to self inject a controlled substance while providing anesthesia services and inappropriately prescribing or dispensing controlled substances to himself and a member of his immediate family. Under the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Lee's Iowa medical license is placed on probation for five years under certain terms and conditions and he was ordered to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty.

**Joseph W. Lucero, M.D.**, a 44 year-old physician from Chugiak, Alaska, was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. Dr. Lucero was issued a public Letter of Reprimand by the Alaska Medical Board for failing to disclose in his application for Alaska medical licensure that disciplinary action had been taken against him during his residency. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for May 3, 2001.

**Daniel E. Miulli, D.O.**, a 40 year-old neurosurgeon practicing in Des Moines, Iowa, was ordered to immediately cease the practice of surgery on the central nervous system and spine. Dr. Miulli was charged by the Board with professional incompetency in his treatment of at least five patients between 1998 and the present. The Board concluded that Dr. Miulli's continued practice of surgery on the central nervous system and spine poses a significant and immediate threat to patient safety. A hearing has been scheduled for February 26, 2001.

**Eric L. Paulson, M.D.**, a 47 year-old physician practicing in Carroll, Iowa, was charged by the Board with violating a lawful order of the Board. On January 11, 1996, Dr. Paulson and the Board entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Informal Settlement which placed Dr. Paulson's Iowa medical license on probation for a period of five years under certain terms and conditions due to alcohol abuse. On July 15, 1999, the Board charged Dr. Paulson with violating a lawful order of the Board when he consumed alcohol in violation of the January 11, 1996, Board Order. On August 26, 1999, Dr. Paulson and the Board entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order which placed his Iowa medical license on probation for a period of five years under certain terms and conditions due to alcohol abuse. On July 27, 2000, Dr. Paulson and the Board entered into a Stipulated Order amending the terms of the probation placed on his Iowa medical license. The Board recently received information indicating Dr. Paulson, on numerous occasions, violated the terms of the most recent Board Order. A hearing in this matter is set for March 8, 2001.

**Floyd D. Simpson, D.O.**, a 56 year-old physician from Springfield, Missouri, was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. Dr. Simpson was disciplined by the Missouri Medical Board due to substance abuse. Dr. Simpson's Missouri medical license was placed on probation for a period of seven (7) years under certain terms and conditions. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for May 3, 2001.

**Terry L. Sprague, D.O.**, a 49 year-old physician from Audubon, Iowa, was charged by the Board with engaging in a sexual relationship with a patient and with engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct when he entered into an inappropriate agreement with the patient. Dr. Sprague admitted engaging in a sexual relationship with a patient between 1994 and January 1998, and that he entered into an agreement with the patient in which Dr. Sprague agreed to compensate the patient on the condition that the patient not report the sexual relationship to any federal, state or local agency or court. A hearing in this matter is set for March 8, 2001.

**Timothy L. Weissinger, M.D.**, a 54 year-old physician from Albuquerque, New Mexico, was the subject of a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order issued by the Board. Dr. Weissinger was charged with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety due to the excessive use of drugs or alcohol and knowingly making false or misleading statements in the practice of medicine. Under the Board Order, Dr. Weissinger is indefinitely prohibited from performing any direct patient care, supervising anyone who is providing direct patient care, and from administering, dispensing, or prescribing any medications and ordered to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty.

**Francis J. Whelan, M.D.**, a 62 year-old physician from Helen, West Virginia, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Iowa Board. Dr. Whelan was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. The Alaska Medical Board reprimanded Dr. Whelan for failing to obtain the required continuing medical education hours. The Iowa Board issued Dr. Whelan a Citation and Warning for being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. Dr. Whelan has not practiced in Iowa for many years.